

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11-14, 18-20 and 22-30 are pending.

Claims 12-14 and 25-30 are allowed. The Examiner is thanked for the allowance.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Zampini et al (US 6,503,689).

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Enomoto (US 2004/0072420 A1).

### **Changes in the Claims:**

Claims 1-11, and 15-24 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

### **Rejection under 35 USC §102(b) – claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24**

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Zampini et al (US 6,503,689). Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 have been canceled. This rejection is therefore moot.

### **Rejection under 35 USC §102(e) – claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24**

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Enomoto (US 2004/0072420 A1). Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 18-20, and 22-24 have been canceled. This rejection is therefore moot.

**Conclusion**

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the amended claims are now in proper form, and that the amended claims all define patentable subject matter over the prior art. Therefore, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance.

**Request for allowance**

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

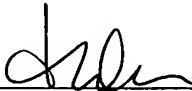
**Invitation for a Telephone Interview**

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 12/21/06



Thierry K. Lo  
Reg. No. 49,097

12400 Wilshire Blvd.  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026  
(408) 720-8300